

July 23, 1998

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington D.C.

In the Matter of  
Docket RM-9208 and amendment (Leggett/Schellhardt petition)  
and  
Docket RM-9242 and amendment (Skinner petition),  
both proposals for Creation of Low Power FM (LPFM) Service

To the Federal Communications Commission

Reply-Comments of Maryjane Stelmach Honner

I wish to add my voice to the countless other Americans in support of relegalization of Low Power FM (LPFM) service and amnesty (as very eloquently stated in the addendum to RM-9208) for microbroadcasters, a/k/a "pirates." The lateness of my letter does not allow me to address in detail all the points I had wished to make; however, I hope you consider my reply-comments and those of other individual citizens as worthy of consideration as any corporation or association.

- I support the multitiered proposal as set forth by RM-9242. Different levels of access to the "airwaves" are needed according to the needs and resources of the communities and microbroadcasters. I support the idea of lowering wattage for mega-stations and using some adjacent channels for LPFM, as well as opening up other unused frequencies. IBOC should not be affected and the FCC should be aware of that by now. Also, EAS should not be required for LPFM. I agree with the broadcast of "We do not subscribe" being broadcast once or twice a day as sufficient (there are already stations that are not EAS required).

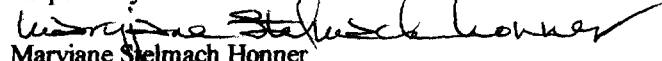
- I do believe, as stated in RM-9208 with amendment and RM-9242 with amendment, that "equal protection under the law" as guaranteed by the 14th Amendment is being violated in regards to licensing and station ownership by preferential treatment of large commercial corporations, through the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (re: auctioning). I take offense at the lobbying efforts of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), their power structure, and their comments concerning LPFM. They represent the greed run rampant in this "corporate" atmosphere in America and do not have the public interest in mind.

- As 1997 president of the Detroit Musicians Alliance, I know that our local artistry, cultural needs, and economy have not been serviced well by big commercial radio. Public outcry for original local programming, affordable advertising, and attention to the community's interests and needs has virtually fallen on deaf ears. What little response we receive as artists, business people, and station audience has been token and "ghetto-ized."

- Microbroadcasters, unless flagrantly and provedly irresponsible with interference to aircraft and emergency frequencies, are true civil disobedients in the fine tradition of America and American justice and rightly deserve amnesty.

Please reestablish the balance in media by relegalizing Low Power radio service. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully Submitted.

  
Maryjane Stelmach Honner  
16715 Washington Square, Apt. A  
Clinton Township, MI 48035